

20 October 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Information Services

VIA: Chief, Classification Review Division

FROM: [REDACTED]  
Chief, External Branch

SUBJECT: Unclassified Documents of Possible  
Historical Interest in the DARE System

1. The latest machine listing of the DARE file contains 37,511 unclassified items. There are approximately 50 NIEs that have been declassified in the last several weeks, but not yet put into DARE. Declassified items represent a little over 10 percent of all items reviewed and entered into DARE (353,997) under the Systematic Classification Review program.

2. Almost 22,000 of these items have no document number (i.e., their authors did not consider them finished intelligence or permanent records). The vast bulk of these items concern the most mundane of internal working matters; e.g., parking regulations, painting contracts, requests for hotel reservations, etc.

[REDACTED]

In addition, neither the unnumbered nor the numbered unclassified documents give any clue to any of the Agency's covert action programs. These items do give an excellent idea of what we were reporting to the President, the NSC, and the intelligence community about the rest of the world. They will, however, be a great disappointment to journalists interested in the more "James Bondish" aspects of intelligence work--and even less to self-proclaimed muckrakers trying to "expose" Agency wrongdoing.

3. Among the numbered items, there are also a great many concerning very routine matters. The over 2,000 items in the Executive Registry series run the gamut of subjects any Agency Director would have in his correspondence, such as commendations, orders, requests, thank-you notes, etc. There is a type of historian that specializes in such things, but it is indeed a very specialized interest.

4. Probably of most interest to historians of this period (1946-64) are the series of intelligence memoranda, reports, and estimates published first by the Office of Research and Estimates (ORE), then by its successor organizations in the DDI: OCI, ORR, and ONE. The following titles are examples of the 280 IMs which have many echoes in today's headlines:

- 2 March 1948, Disturbances in Central America;
- 8 March 1948, Soviet Aircraft Estimates;
- 20 July 1948, Memo for the President (the Chinese Nationalist Government);
- 2 December 1948, Soviet Military Expenditures;
- 2 December 1948, Petroleum Products in the USSR;
- 7 December 1948, World's Proved Crude Oil Reserves;
- 15 December 1948, Consequences of Expediting U.S. Military Aid to China;
- 3 January 1949, Strategic Importance of Taiwan;
- 4 January 1949, Effect of Communist Dominated China on South East Asia;
- 11 January 1949, Probable Soviet Reaction to a U.S. Attempt to Force Berlin Blocade;
- 18 January 1949, Estimate of Current Soviet "Peace" Moves;
- 31 March 1949, Estimate of the Optimum Time of the Year for War to Commence, from Soviet Point of View;
- 5 April 1949, Probable Enemies, Allies, and Neutrals in the Event of War Before 1953;
- 12 May 1949, Precarious Position of the Peron Government;
- 29 August 1949, Possibility of Soviet Armed Aggression Against Tito;
- 7 October 1949, Consequences of Communist Control of French Indo-China;
- 2 December 1949, Possible Widespread Violence in the Philippines;

24 March 1950, Initial Allignments in the Event of War Before 1954;

28 June 1950, The USSR and the Korean Invasion;

27 July 1950, Possibility of Soviet Aggression Against Iran;

8 September 1950, Probability of Direct Chinese Communist Intervention in Korea (led to the establishment of a separate Office of National Estimates);

31 October 1950, Estimate of Soviet and Non-Soviet Reactions to U.S. Nuclear Energy Tests;

8 April 1966, The Succession to Chiang Kai-Shek;

17 February 1967, Prospects for Violence in Indonesia.

5. There are also an additional 250 documents from 1947-51 on all subjects and countries similar to the IMs above, which ORE simply called "memos." The memo of 5 April 1948 entitled, Consequences of Certain Courses of Action with Respect to Greece is an example. It had an estimative quality, as many IMs did, even though they were not called estimates. Of the true National Intelligence Estimates (NIEs), Special Estimates (SEs), and later Special National Intelligence Estimates (SNIEs), DARE lists about 250 documents. Coordination with State and the Air Force continues and will greatly increase that number. Publishing National Intelligence (such as the NIEs, and the National Intelligence Surveys (NISs)) was one of the reasons CIA was established in 1946. The reason why it became necessary to write the quicker special estimates is hinted at in the title of SE-1, of 11 January 1951, International Implications of Maintaining a Beachhead in South Korea. The last SE in DARE was Number 34, dated 3 December 1953, Political Outlook in Italy; but, the NIEs and SNIEs continued into the mid-60's.

6. The NISs compose one of the largest groups of declassified documents in DARE, consisting of about 1540 chapters, each being a separate document, added to the 650 JANIS reports, which they supplanted in 1948. The Joint Army-Navy Intelligence Summaries, first started in World War II, set the encyclopedic style of this series, necessary at the time, but probably somewhat limiting their present interest to scholars. Many of their chapters are available from other more current sources--weather, tides and currents, geography, etc., while the more intelligence-oriented information, such as the political, economic and industrial, and military chapters, would be of more interest to historians.

7. Once the Office of National Estimates was established in January 1951 to publish the NIEs, it began to publish a series called "Staff Memos," primarily for the background information of their own analysts. This series, of which about 360 are listed in the declassified DARE, contains some of the most interesting documents available, as the following sample of titles indicates:

No. 135, 25 September 1951, Soviet Attitudes Toward the Inevitability of War;

No. 210, 27 March 1952, Racial Situation in South Africa;

74-56, 10 September 1956, The Plot Against the Plot, One Prong of Soviet Agricultural Policy;

17-59, 12 May 1959, Church and Party in Poland.

8. Similar to these are the current intelligence documents, published by the Office of Current Intelligence since 1951. Of the OCI documents listed, many are internal memos and calendars of international events but, this also includes many Weekly Intelligence Summaries, Intelligence Highlights, and International Communism Monthlies. OCI also published a number of country handbooks and [redacted] (being in too much of a hurry to rely on OCR and State to provide these).

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(either as part of their daily and weekly publications, or separately) on such things as election results in various countries, the Kashmir Problem, and on 3 February 1959, The Influence of Women on Policy in the Sino-Soviet Bloc.

9. In general, the ESAU and CAESAR papers of the Senior Research Staff were so bulky that they resisted complete declassification but, on the list, is the CAESAR paper of 27 April 1962, Khrushchev and the Anti-Party Group. The Senior Research Staff on International Communism is also represented by seventeen additional declassified in-depth (from 18 to 130 pages in length) studies of international communism published between 1956-60. A typical title is "National Versus International Communism: A Comparative Analysis."

10. The files would be of vital interest to historians interested in the Korean War. There are about 230 Daily Korean Bulletins and Daily Korean Summaries in the file. The first documents that CRD declassified were CIA-1 to CIA 9-50, Reviews of the World Situation, 55 profound and rather ponderous documents published by ORE from 1947 to 1950.

11. Any survey of published CIA documents should mention prominently economic reporting. Unfortunately, the chief producer of economic reports, ORR (later OER) did not have its files in the Records Center ready for systematic review before the program ended. (The same was true of the Office of Scientific Intelligence.) However, in the course of reviewing other Agency components, a large number of economic reports were declassified. DARE lists about 150 economic and geographic reports in the CIA/RR series between 1950 and 1964. In addition, there are about 100 MP documents devoted to economic reporting. Two examples include:

MP-94, 18 June 1952, Economic Comparison of NATO Countries and the Soviet Bloc and;

MP-163, 12 September 1956, Soviet Gross National Product.

STAT 12. DARE also has many entries which could be considered more as [redacted] Most of these came from components of the old Office of Operations (abolished in 1965) which have now been dispersed to other directorates. The DDI at that time influenced the tone, subjects, and format of the Office of Operations publications. There are over 3,250 items from the Foreign Documents Division, which translated and otherwise exploited foreign language publications. These included press summaries, local biographies of communist personalities, and reports from all countries on a variety of subjects such as: economics, general science, physics, chemistry, industry, and even philosophic and theoretical journals. FDD is now combined with the Foreign Broadcast Information Division, many of whose world-wide press, TV, and radio reports are now published UNCLASSIFIED. In earlier times, these were more often classified, so FBIS has about a hundred declassified reports in DARE.

STAT [redacted] in the 1950's published many reports [redacted] the subjects of which were based on Intelligence Directorate requirements. The following DARE samples give an idea of the types of subjects covered by the 75 Memos of Information and 100 OOB's: STAT

#20, 8 February 1951, Recent Iranian Developments;

#35, 14 March 1951, Adverse Effects of the new U.S. Spanish Policy;

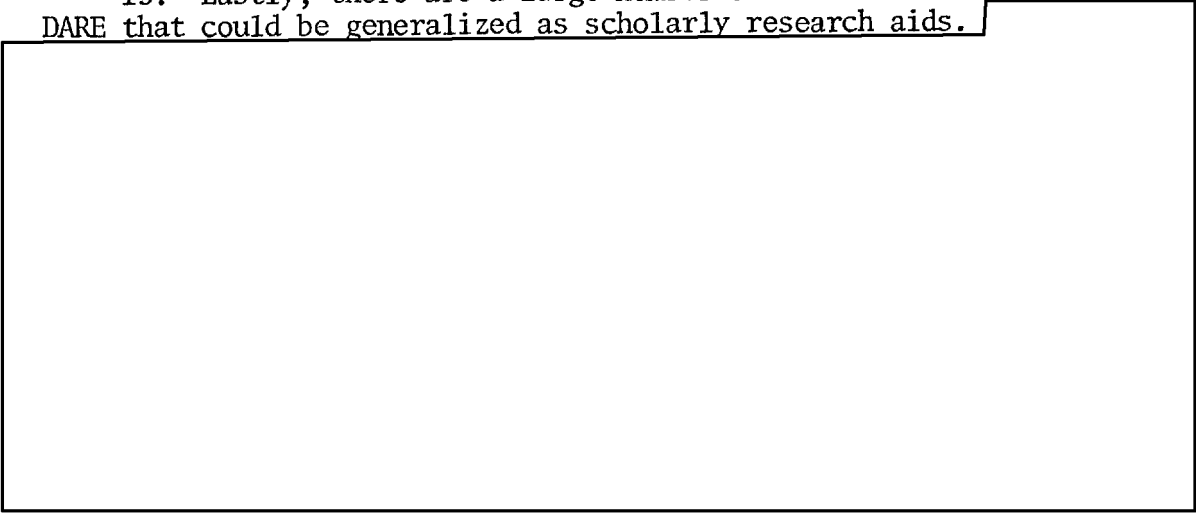
#43, 23 March 1951, Strategic Significant of the Nationalization of Iranian Oil;

#57, 11 April 1951, The Saar Issue;

#71, 16 May 1951, Forthcoming Italian Elections.

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13. Lastly, there are a large number of declassified items in  
DARE that could be generalized as scholarly research aids.



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DARE entries - 353,997

Unclassified DARE entries - 37,511

Unclassified entries which have no document number - 22,000

Possible Historic Interest

ORE IMs - 280

ORE Memos - 250

ERs (Executive Registry) - 2,000

NIEs, SEs, SNIEs - 250

NISSs - 1540

JANIS - 650

ONE Staff Memos - 360

OCI Documents - 1650

Sr. Res. Staff on Intl. Communism Studies - 18

Reviews of the World Situation - 55

Economic Reports - CIR/RRs - 150, MPs - 100

Daily Korean Bulletins and Summaries - 230

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